

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00235 051658Z

47

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 014862

O R 051640Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4999
INFO USMISSION EC BUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0235

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LU, EEC

SUBJ: DIPLOMATIC CURIOSITY

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 02100; (B) STATE 45352; (C) STATE 36589

1. IN HIS COMMENTS TO AMBASSADOR HINTON REPORTED IN REFTEL (A), PRIME MINISTER THORN WAS REFERRING TO THE SECRETARY'S VIEWS EXPRESSED IN REFTEL (B). DUE TO ILLNESS, I WAS INDISPOSED WHEN THAT MESSAGE ARRIVED, I INSTRUCTED MY DCM TO PROVIDE THE SECRETARY'S VIEWS TO THORN VIA MFA SECRETARY GENERAL WURTH, WHICH THE DCM DID SAME DAY. HE ASSURED WURTH THAT THE MESSAGE REPRESENTED THE SECRETARY'S PERSONAL VIEWS. WURTH TOOK EXTENSIVE NOTES AND SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY PASS ON THE MESSAGE TO THORN. WURTH LATER CONFIRMED THAT THORN WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE SECRETARY'S VIEWS AND WOULD GIVE THEM HIS FULL CONSIDERATION. WHEN I PAID FAREWELL CALL ON THORN ON MARCH 3, I MENTIONED THAT I WAS AWARE OF HIS MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR HINTON. THORN MADE NO COMMENT.

2. COMMENT: THORN HAS LONG BEEN AN ADMIRER OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AND REGARDS HIM AS A MASTER DIPLOMATIC STRATEGIST AND TACTICIAN. BECAUSE THE LINE THE SECRETARY TOOK IN REFTEL (B) DOES NOT IN ANY ESSENTIAL
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WAY DIVERGE FROM THE INPUT THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDED FOR

THE DIALOGUE WITH THE EEC PRESIDENCY PRIOR TO THE
FEBRUARY 16-17 POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING (PARAGRAPH
7, REFTEL (C)), THORN MAY HAVE FELT THAT THE SECRETARY'S
DIRECT MESSAGE TO HIM DID NOT REFLECT THE FULL COMPLEXITY
OF HIS PERSONAL APPROACH. DCM TOOK OPPORTUNITY TODAY TO
REEMPHASIZE TO MR. WURTH THAT REFTEL (B) WAS SENT WITH
THE SECRETARY'S FULL KNOWLEDGE AND APPROVAL. WURTH
AGAIN SPOKE WITH THORN ABOUT IT AND SAID MR. THORN
REMAINS SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL BUT ACCEPTS OUR ASSURANCES.
FARKAS

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NNN

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